

Message Text

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PAGE 01 DOHA 00958 050725Z

16

ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 SAM-01 EB-07 IO-10 CIAE-00

DODE-00 PM-03 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01

PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 AID-05 /091 W

----- 079762

R 050616Z AUG 75

FM AMEMBASSY DOHA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0761

INFO AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI

USINT BAGHDAD

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMEMBASSY KUWAIT

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MANAMA

AMEMBASSY MUSCAT

AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

AMEMBASSY SANA

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

C O N F I D E N T I A L DOHA 0958

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR QA IZ

SUBJ: AMIR OF QATAR ON GULF SECURITY AND VISIT TO IRAQ

REF: DOHA 0939

SUMMARY: AMIR OF QATAR HAS TOLD IRAQIS THAT THERE MUST BE AN END TO DHOFAR WAR BEFORE GULF SECURITY ARRANGEMENTS CAN BE DISCUSSED. RE US NAVAL PRESENCE IN BAHRAIN, AMIR AGAIN DODGED ISSUE BY SAYING IT WOULD NOT BE PROBLEM IF US SUCCESSFULLY CATALYZED MID EAST SETTLEMENT. END SUMMARY

1. DURING AUG 4 CONVERSATION, AMIR OF QATAR, SHAYKH KHALIFA BIN HAMAD AL THANI, BRIEFED ME ON HIS JULY 9-11 VISIT TO IRAQ AND HIS CONVERSATIONS THERE ON GULF SECURITY.

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2. ACCORDING KHALIFA, HE FOUND SITUATION IN IRAQ AND GOI'S

ATTITUDES "MUCH IMPROVED." HE SAID HE HAD LONG AND FRANK CON-
VERSATION WITH SADDAM HUSSEIN ON SITUATION IN GULF AND GULF
SECURITY. (KHALIFA OBSERVED THAT SADDAM FIRMLY IN SADDLE--
HE DESCRIBED PRESIDENT BAKR AS AN "OLD SICK MILITARY MAN".)
KHALIFA STATED THAT HE HAD TOLD SADDAM THAT RELATIONS AMONG
GULF STATES MUST BE GOVERNED BY PRINCIPLE OF NON-INTERFERENCE
IN EACH OTHER'S AFFAIRS. AMIR SAID THAT HE ALSO TOLD SADDAM
THAT SOVIET INFLUENCE MUST BE REMOVED FROM THIS AREA SINCE
ONLY REASON FOR ITS PRESENCE WAS SOVIET AIM TO CONTROL
REGION'S RICH OIL RESOURCES. RE ANYNRRRANGEMENTS FOR GULF
SECURITY AMONG AREA STATES, KHALIFA SAID HE INFORMED SADDAM
THAT NOTHING COULD MOVE ON SUCH ARRANGEMENTS UNTIL DHOFAR WAS WAS
ENDED. ACCORDING AMIR, SADDAM HAD CONCURRED WITH THESE POINTS
AND HAD CONFIRMED HIS AGREEMENT IN LATER CONVERSATION WITH
AMIR'S SON, SHAYKH ABDUL AZIZ.

3. AMIR REMARKED THAT ALTHOUGH HE HAD BEEN FRANK WITH SADDAM,
HE DIDN'T TRY TO PUSH HIM TOO FAR SINCE THIS WAS THEIR FIRST
REAL MEETING, AND BECAUSE HE RECOGNIZED RELATIVELY SMALL
INFLUENCE THAT QATAR HAS IN AREA. HE SAID SAUDIS MUST PLAY
PRINCIPAL ROLE IN BRINGING IRAQIS AROUND, AND THEY ALREADY
WORKING HARD, PARTICULARLY ON DHOFAR ASPECT.

4. AMIR SAID THAT HE HAD ALSO COUNSELED SADDAM TO COME TO
AMICABLE SOLUTION OF BORDER PROBLEM WITH KUWAIT. KHALIFA
INDICATED THAT IRAQIS MAINTAINING A TOUGH STAND ON THIS PROBLEM,
AND SOLUTION WOULD BE DIFFICULT. HE SAID HERE AGAIN SAUDIS
MUST PLAY PRINCIPAL MEDIATING ROLE.

5. I ASKED AMIR WHETHER SUBJECT OF US NAVAL PRESENCE IN
BAHRAIN HAD COME UP DURING HIS BAGHDAD CONVERSATIONS. HE
REPLIED THAT IT HAD NOT, AND I ASKED HIM FOR GOQ POSITION.
AMIR RESPONDED WITH HIS USUAL DODGE, I.E. THAT IF US SUCCESS-
FULLY CATALYZED MID EAST SETTLEMENT, MIDEASTFOR WOULD NOT
RPT NOT BECOME AN ISSUE IN AREA.
PAGANELLI

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